

February 27, 2022

**Bringing Forth the Light**

**Prelude** Jen Moser, Organist

**Welcome and Announcements** Pastor John

**\*Responsive Reading (Psalm 99:1-5)** Stuart Mykrantz

One: The Lord rules — the nations shake

**All: The Lord is great in Zion;**

One: He is exalted over all the nations.

**All: Let them thank your great and awesome name.**

One: He is holy!

**All: Strong king who loves justice,**

One: You are the one who established what is fair.

**All: You worked justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

One: Magnify the Lord, our God!

**All: Bow low at his footstool! He is holy!**

**\*Hymn** “We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding” Insert

**\*Prayer of Affirmation and Assurance** Stuart Mykrantz

Almighty God, we affirm our faith in you, knowing that you are always with us. Keep us under your watchful eye and your protective care. Lead us away from that which is evil and direct us toward that which is holy and pleasing in your sight. This, we pray, with great reverence, from this day forward, Amen!

**Time of Reflection**

**Prayer of Elucidation** Stuart Mykrantz

Great and powerful God, on this Transfiguration Sunday, we pause to see the light and pledge to follow it wherever we may go. Let us be attentive to your word and obedient to your commands so that we may reflect the brilliance of your light and glorify your name.

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession** Pastor John  
Holy Redeemer, we are weak, but you are strong. Despite our best efforts, we continue to stumble, so we once again seek to reconcile, reconnect, and resurrect through you. Forgive us for our sins and cleanse our souls so that we may begin a new life in you. This we pray with humble contrition. Amen!

**Prayer of Illumination** Pastor John

**Old Testament Reading — Exodus 29:35** CEB

**New Testament Reading — Luke 9: 28-36** CEB

One: Let us rejoice in God's Holy Word!

**All: For God's Word reigns us light, hope, and joy.**

**\*Gloria Patri** No. 70

**\*Hymn** “Jesus Calls Us” No. 398

**Message** “Blinded by the Light” Pastor John

**Our Morning Prayer**

**Presentation to God of Our Gifts**

**\*Doxology** No. 95

**\*Hymn** “O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair” No. 258

**\*Benediction and Postlude**

*\*= please stand in body or spirit*

Lenten Events		
March 2	Ash Wednesday	7 :00 pm
April 10	Palm Sunday	10:30 am
April 14	Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm
April 17	Easter Sunday	10:30 am

**Preparing for Our Lenten Journey**

Lent is a very important time of preparation in our faith journey as we mark the days leading up to agonizing persecution and crucifixion of Jesus Christ on the cross followed by his majestic and glorious resurrection from the tomb. This divine series of events reminds us that our Savior overcame sin and death and provided a pathway to eternal life in our Father's Kingdom.

This solemn 40-day expedition begins this week with Ash Wednesday when we are reminded that our mortal lives will pass away but that our redeemed souls will live eternally in Heaven. Please join us on March 2 at 7 p.m. for a brief but meaningful service when ashes will be imposed and the voyage to the cross will begin again.

In most Christian traditions, Lent is a period of fasting, abstinence, penitence, reflection, and prayer. When I was young, we were all encouraged to “give something up” for Lent. For me, it was always the “Three C's” – Coke, Cake, and Candy. Looking back, I wish I had given up those three vices forever, but they remain staples of my diet to this day.

Moving forward, maybe we should think less about what we can “give up” and more about what we can “give” this Lenten season. Most of you give of your time and talents all year round, but if you think it's time to re-evaluate your daily routines, here are a few things you might consider getting started this Lent...

- Set aside 5-10 minutes for intentional prayer and reflection each day
- Find some Christian music to lift you up and inspire you on a daily basis
- Place a phone call to a friend, neighbor, family member or anyone else to make their day
- Put some extra change in a jar each day and give it to a worthy cause on Easter Sunday
- Look for opportunities to do something nice for a stranger who crosses your path



Almighty God, we gather again to praise your name and to lift up our brothers and sisters in prayer. We ask that you bring comfort and assurance to those who suffer and those who mourn. We also give you thanks for the many blessings you have bestowed upon us and for your very presence in our lives...

**Praises**

The remarkable story of four-month old Chase and his recovery  
 Evelyn Silver and her steady progression to good health  
 Christy Rickard and her continued improvements through treatments  
 Oak Chapel's Prayer Shawl Ministry and the nearly 300 lives it has touched

**Prayer Concerns**

Heidi Arnold, who had a brain tumor removed and is awaiting biopsy results  
 Betsy Bower, who continues to recover at Smithville-Western Care Center  
 Elizabeth Feldman, who underwent surgery this past week  
 Sandy Treece, who is scheduled for physical therapy this week  
 The Worldwide United Methodist Church, particularly those in Russia and Ukraine

**Today's Prayer Concerns**

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**Opportunities for Ministry This Week**

Sunday 2/27	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Worship	10:30 am
	Young Adult Class	11:30 am
Monday 2/28	Bible Study	9:30 am
	UMW Exec Meeting	10:00 am
	Prayer Shawl	6:00 pm
Tuesday 3/01	Shrove Tuesday	
	Outreach	9:30 am
	Days for Girls	1:00 pm
Wednesday 3/02	Ash Wednesday	7:00 pm

**Looking Ahead**

Sunday 3/06	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Worship	10:30 am
Monday 3/07	Retirees' Breakfast	8:00 am
	Bible Study	9:30 am
	Art & Soul	7:00 pm
Wednesday 3/09	Choir	7:00 pm
Saturday 3/12	UMM Breakfast	7:30 am



**Financial News:**

Tithes and Offerings needed each Sunday for budgeted expenses (January 2022): \$2,037

Received last month:

01/02 - \$689	01/09 - \$750	
01/16 - \$3,435	01/23 - \$927	01/30 - \$1,319

As of 01/31/2022, we received about 70% of our budgeted income for the month of January and 70% YTD. The Food Pantry and Helping Hands Fund continue to be well supported. Thank you! Oak Chapel is alive and well!

# Oak Chapel United Methodist Church

**February 27, 2022**



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 John Finn, *Pastor*

*Serving God and Community  
 through Love, Compassion,  
 Fellowship and Caring*

Today's Message...

***"Blinded by the Light"***